## TRY AT HOME <br> 4 EASY STEPS TO IMPROVE LITERACY BY INCREASING THE NUMBER OF WORDS YOUR CHILD HEARS "COUNT ME IN!"

1.TALK

- Use these words when talking to your child about counting: number-quantity, amount; numeral-number, digit; and
- estimate-approximation, educated guess


## 2.SING

## Ten Little Lizards

tune: Ten Little Indians
One little, two little, three little lizards,
Four little, five little, six little lizards, Seven little, eight little, nine little lizards,
Ten lizards in a line.
3.READ

Borrow these seasonal books from the library, or ask your friendly librarian for other titles.

- Rooster's Off to See the World by Eric Carle
- Ten, Nine, Eight by Molly Bang
- Mouse Count by Ellen Stoll Walsh
4.PLAY
- Estimate and count all kinds of things. Talk with your child about estimation. Tell him that it is your "best guess". Talk about the kinds of things you can estimate: how many things there are, when you will arrive at a destinationhow many minutes it will take, and how much something might cost? Then do it! Find a grouping of items and estimate how many there are in the group. You could use socks from the dryer, shoes in the closet or silverware that you have taken from a drawer and placed on the table in a cluster. You might also estimate and count the number of cookies or snack crackers in a package. Remember, your child is most likely able to count to 10 without much help and possibly up to 20 once they get past 12, but only use greater quantities of items if they are able to count higher.

